

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 NSF-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

NSC-07 NIC-01 DRC-01 /088 W
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R 130539Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 561

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, OTRA (KOTANI, MASAO) (YOSHIKI, MASAO), CH, JA

SUBJ: VISIT OF JAPANESE SCIENTISTS TO PRC

1. A GROUP OF SEVEN EMINENT JAPANESE SCIENTISTS WILL VISIT PEKING DURING MARCH 26-APRIL 8, 1974. THIS EXCHANGE IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE ORIGINATED IN JUNE 1973, WHEN A TELEGRAM WAS RECEIVED FROM TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY INVITING EIGHT SPECIFIED JAPANESE SCIENTISTS AND EDUCATORS TO VISIT CHINA FOR A TWO-WEEK PERIOD. THE VISIT WAS ORIGINALLY TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN OCTOBER, 1973, BUT A TELEGRAM WAS RECEIVED SOMETIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED DEPARTURE, REQUESTING POSTPONEMENT ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE HOSTS WOULD BE OCCUPIED AT THAT TIME. WE ARE UNCERTAIN AS TO WHEN OR HOW THE NEW SCHEDULE WAS ARRIVED AT.

2. SINCE ONE OF THE EIGHT SCHOLARS INVITED, DR. ROKUMI KATO, FORMER PRESIDENT OF TOKYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN RECENTLY SUGGESTED AS A STRONG CANDIDATE TO BE COMMISSIONER OF THE NATIONAL

PERSONNEL AUTHORITY (SIMILAR TO US CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION), HE HAS ASKED TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE VISITING TEAM; HENCE THE FOLLOWING SEVEN SCIENTISTS WILL BE ACTUALLY
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VISITING CHINA:

DR. MASAO KOTANI, PRESIDENT, TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE,
TEAM LEADER
DR. TATSUOKI MAIYAJIMA, FORMER PRESIDENT, TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF
EDUCATION
DR. NOBUYUKI FUKUDA, VICE PRESIDENT, TSUKUBA UNIVERSITY
DR. MASAO YOSHIKI, CHIEF DIRECTOR, JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE
PROMOTION OF SCIENCE, TOKYO (JSPS)
DR. TAKASHI MUKAIBO, PROFESSOR, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING,
UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO
DR. HIDEO ITOKAWA, DIRECTOR, SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
TOKYO
DR. JUNICHI TAKAGI, PROFESSOR, FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING, WASEDA UNIVERSITY, TOKYO

ONE OF THESE SCIENTISTS, PRON. MUKAIBO, LIVED IN MANCHURIA AS A
YOUNG MAN, AND WAS ONCE FLUENT IN CHINESE, ALTHOUGH IT HAS LONG
BEEN IN DISUSE. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP
SPEAK CHINESE. THERE IS NO INDICATION OF HOW THESE NAMES WERE
SELECTED BY THE CHINESE, BUT THE INDIVIDUALS INVITED ARE ALL OF
FIRST-RANK IN THE JAPANESE SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY,
AND SEVERAL OF THEM ARE ESPECIALLY ACTIVE IN INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION.

3. PROF. MUKAIBO HAS INDICATED THAT THIS EXCHANGE IS VIEWED BY
BOTH PARTIES AS AN INITIAL STEP IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ONGOING
EXCHANGE WITH THE PRC. IN THIS REGARD, THE INVITATION TO DR.
YOSHIKI IS PROBABLY PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT, SINCE THE JSPS
IS JAPAN'S PRINCIPAL ORGAN FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AT THE GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL. IT IS A QUASI-
PUBLIC ORGANIZATION WHICH RECEIVES MOST OF ITS SUPPORT FROM THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.
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